

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend/replace claims 21-26 as follows:

Claims 1-20. (Cancelled)

Claim 21. (Previously amended) ~~A~~ housing portion of an exhaust system component, the housing portion comprising:

~~a shell having~~ an outer wall and an inner wall configured to provide a double wall arrangement, wherein the shell forms a bushing ~~is formed in the double wall arrangement from a displaced portion of the outer wall and a displaced portion of the inner wall, wherein the displaced portion of the inner wall and the displaced portion of the outer wall are merged together to define the bushing~~ ~~that~~ and the bushing defines ~~and connects~~ an opening through the outer wall and the inner wall; and

~~an oxygen sensor disposed through the bushing such that a portion of the oxygen sensor extends into an interior portion of the shell.~~

Claim 22. (Previously amended) The ~~exhaust system component~~ housing portion of Claim 21, wherein the bushing has a flat surface on an end opposite the inner wall the flat surface providing a mounting surface for a sensor.

Claim 23. (Previously amended) The ~~exhaust system component~~ housing portion of Claim 21, further comprising insulation disposed between the outer wall and the inner wall and ~~in physical contact with~~about the bushing.

Claim 24. (Previously amended) The ~~exhaust system component~~ housing portion of Claim 21, wherein the bushing is formed in a rounded portion of the ~~shell~~housing portion.

Claim 25. (Previously amended) The ~~exhaust system component~~ housing portion of Claim 21, wherein the ~~shell having the inner wall and the outer wall is a double walled~~housing portion is an end-cone of the exhaust treatment device.

Claim 26. (Previously amended) The ~~exhaust system component housing portion~~ of Claim 21, wherein a plurality of threads are formed in the bushing ~~of the shell~~.

Claims 27-32. (Canceled)

Claim 33. (Previously presented) A housing portion as in claim 21, wherein the bushing is formed by a flowdrilling process and the busing further comprises a mounting surface.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) An end cone of an exhaust treatment device, comprising:

an outer wall defining an exterior surface of the end cone;

an inner wall disposed within an inner area defined by the outer wall, wherein portions of the inner wall are in a facing spaced relationship with respect to the outer wall;

a bushing formed by commingled displaced portions of the inner wall and the outer wall; and

an opening extending from the exterior of the end cone to an inner chamber defined by the inner wall.

Claim 35. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 34, wherein the bushing secures the inner wall to the outer wall.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 34, further comprising insulation disposed between the outer wall and the inner wall and about a periphery of the bushing disposed between the inner wall and the outer wall.

Claim 37. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 34, wherein the exterior surface of the end cone is curved and a portion of the bushing is configured to have a flat surface disposed about a periphery of the opening of the bushing, wherein the flat surface

is positioned away from the exterior surface of the end cone.

Claim 38. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 37, further comprising a plurality of threads formed in the opening of the bushing.

Claim 39. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 37, further comprising a sensor secured to the bushing.

Claim 40. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 34, wherein the bushing further comprises a surface configured to engage a portion of a sensor secured to the bushing, wherein the surface is positioned away from the exterior surface of the end cone and wherein the exterior surface of the end cone is curved.

Claim 41. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 40, wherein the bushing is formed by a flowdrilling process.

Claim 42. (Previously presented) The end cone as in claim 34, wherein the bushing is formed by a flowdrilling process.